



TRIPwire

Technical Resource for Incident Prevention



WEEKLY THREAT REVIEW | 30 JULY 2014

Overview

In this issue of the Weekly Threat Review, **TRIPwire** reports on the second issue of the English language magazine, *Dabiq*, published by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. The 44-page special Ramadan issue is entitled, "The Flood," in reference to the story of Noah. The magazine was released via the official account of ISIS's multi-language outlet. For more information, please see Page 3.

Also this week, al-Nusra Front released a 31-minute video titled, "The Story of the American Muhajir," featuring the first American suicide bomber. This individual participated in a coordinated attack on 25 May 2014 against a key Syrian army stronghold near Idlib. For details, please see Page 3.

Finally, **TRIPwire** covers a threat against the Australian Federal Police after arrest warrants were issued for Mohamed Elomar. All of the threats warn the police force of future attacks against them. For further information, please see Page 5.



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ISIS Releases Second Issue of English Language Magazine *Dabiq* (Arabic/English)

On 28 July 2014, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria published the second issue of its English magazine *Dabiq*, in which it vows to bring its violent campaign to Israel and stresses the importance of the group's latest military successes, including the recent takeover of the Syrian army's 17th Division base in Raqqa Province.

The latest edition of *Dabiq*, a 44-page special Ramadan issue, entitled, "The Flood," was released via the official account of ISIS's multi-language outlet. The release did not contain a specific incitement or threat against targets in the West, but it made a series of generic references for future battles against the West and other enemies.

The most noteworthy article in this issue was a two page article devoted to Senator John McCain, sharply criticizing him for his stance on the US invasion of Iraq. The article also reprinted his latest speech about recent developments in Iraq verbatim.



Dabiq Cover Magazine
Source: Jihadist Forum

Al-Nusra Front Releases Video of American Suicide Bomber (Arabic/English)

On 25 July 2014, al-Nusra Front released a video featuring the first American suicide bomber known to have participated in a major jihadist operation. The individual fought alongside al-Nusra Front in a coordinated attack on May 25 2014 against a key Syrian army stronghold near Idlib.

The 31-minute video titled, "The Story of the American Muhajir," features Moner Mohammad Abu-Salha (AKA Abu Hurayra al-Amriki). It begins by showing pictures of Hurayra both in America and in Syria, accompanied with other western jihadists. The footage is followed by a video of him tearing up his U.S. passport and burning it on the ground.



Moner Abu-Salha presenting his passport before burning it
Source: YouTube

He provided a detailed story of his journey to Syria. He claimed that he flew to Istanbul to find the mujahedeen. He expressed the unhappiness that he felt while living in America. The video ends with footage of an explosion, implied to be from Abu Hurayra's suicide attack as his picture appears in the corner of the screen.



ISIS Appearing in Europe (English)

According to Liberty News Online, ISIS has made its way to Hague, Netherlands. Representatives of the group are seen displaying their flag and shouting phrases such as "death to the Jews," and "the French killed the Moroccans but they didn't kill them all."

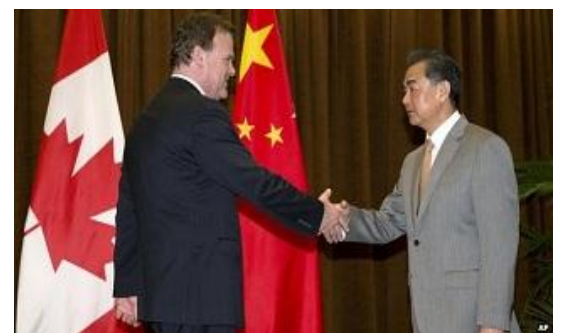
The Dutch government approved the demonstrations. The demonstration was believed to be a follow-up on a previous one, defending the rights of the Palestinians in Gaza. Video of the protest shows that the group carried the ISIS flag. According to Liberty News Online, local civilians have expressed concern about the potential escalation of violence and anti-Semitism following the protests. Local news media interviewed one individual who stated that "they [ISIS] are trying to win the hearts and minds and expendable bodies of young people, persuading them to go fight alongside the hundreds of Europeans who've already joined the gruesome war in Iraq and Syria."



Source: Liberty News Online

Canada's National Research Council's Infrastructure Breached (English)

Canadian government stated that Chinese hackers breached the National Research Council's infrastructure. BBC News reported that "the board said the 'highly-sophisticated' intrusion was confirmed by one of Canada's spy agencies." The Chinese embassy denied the accusation and stated that the Canadian government had no grounds for the allegation. On 29 July 2014, according to BBC News, a spokesman for Canada's foreign minister said he had a "full and frank exchange of views on the matter" with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi.



A spokesman for Canada's foreign minister with Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi
Source: BBC News

Pro-Russian Separatists Mine Entry-point to MH17 Crash Site (English)

Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council stated that pro-Russian separatists have made safe access to the crash site of MH17 impossible. According to the Council, the separatists set up landmines around the crash



site. The investigation cannot commence under these circumstances. Media sources reported that "the news came hours after Belarus announced it will host talks between Ukraine, Russia and the OSCE security."

U.S. Embassy Closed in Libya (English)

On 25 July 2014, the U.S. State Department evacuated its embassy in Tripoli, Libya and advised all American citizens to leave the country. The evacuation occurred after clashes between militants occurred near diplomatic offices. Embassy personnel were transported to Tunisia and other locations to continue their work. Embassies in Syria and Central African Republic also suspended operations. On 28 July 2014, Germany pulled its embassy staff, minus a handful of people still carrying out duties. Britain's embassy is also working on a reduced staff.



Source: The Local

The U.S., Germany, Britain and Denmark have issued warnings against travel to Libya and have advised all of their citizens to leave the country along with Spain, Turkey, and Belgium. Other countries that have issued travel advisories include Sweden, Finland, Norway, Malta, Austria, and the Czech Republic.



Australian Federal Police Threatened After Posting Warrants for Arrest

(English)

Australian jihadist Mohamed Elomar threatened Australian Federal Police (AFP) after warrants for his arrest were posted. Elomar has used Twitter to make most of the threats, including pictures of him holding decapitated heads along with threatening messages.

All of the messages warn AFP of a future attacks. One recent online post on Twitter read:

"dnt worry I'll be Bak in direct conflict very soon, just need abit time for my knee injury suffered against Jash Al hoor . . .don't worry ASIO there is plenty of work for you guys coming up." [sic]



Mohamed Elomar
Source: Mail Online